

Select Committee Work Programme**Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Children's mental health and the transition

The pandemic has had a detrimental effect on children's mental health. Increased stress and anxiety has obvious demands on mental health services and possible delays in support. Is there a shortfall in professional help in schools and what is the extent of provision from the Council and the NHS. What systems are in place to ensure "joined up services", has the support for schools been reduced over time.

Outcomes desired:- To ensure the Council and members have a better understanding of the perceived or real shortfalls in support for the mental health wellbeing of our children Throughout their school life and into transition into secondary, further and higher education

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS.

PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

Increase in home schooling has led to more parents spending time with their children and noticing changes in behaviour. When returning to school notable differences in behaviour in some is eluded to by parents and staff. Educational Psychologists consultation waiting times maybe unknown to members or the public in general. There appears to be growing concern among many about the mental health and wellbeing of pupils. Coupled with this is the alarming rise in suicide and self-harm attributed by some as the effects of social isolation from their peer group.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

Early interventions can impact on later more intense costly and time consuming treatments.

Skilled analysis can enhance the child's attainment and behaviour preventing the need for specialist educational placement. This may lead to family break up, anti-social behaviour and a more vulnerable group of young people.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Early intervention may reduce demands on social services and demands on provision for looked after children.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):	
How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan? To hopefully review the changes as proposed last April in children's services and help develop a healthy more cohesive society.	
What would you want the outcome of the review to be? Improve where necessary the provision of mental health services in schools and the community as a whole. Also to ensure as far as possible a more joined up and holistic approach to the mental health of our young people.	
Signed: 	Date: 18/02/2022
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